

THE STUDIO

DIRECTORY • DISPATCHES

2021 | VOL 1

MAINFRAME
STUDIOS

MOVING
&





MOVED IN

*Deshara Bohanna,
owner of Design
Fetish by Deshara,
handcrafts
luxury wreaths
and centerpieces
for homes and
businesses in
Central Iowa
and beyond. The
Arkansas native
also serves on
the Ankeny
School Board.*

WELCOME TO

The Studios

Despite this past year's numerous challenges, Mainframe Studios has persevered - furthering its mission, values and capital campaign with great promise. **Renovations that added another 58 studios on third floor completed in February with talented creatives proceeding to fill these new spaces immediately.** It is an honor to be an ally in advancing their careers by developing a replicable and sustainable model for moving artists to the forefront of community resiliency. Mainframe Studios aims to serve as a beacon, demonstrating that investing in the creative economy works, even in times of crisis. Thank you for joining us, and welcome to The Studios.

Cheers,

Siobhan Spain, *Executive Director*



MAINFRAME STUDIOS
900 Keosauqua Way
Des Moines, IA 50309
Mainframestudios.org
@mainframearts

MISSION
A 501^c3 nonprofit providing permanent affordable workspace for artists of all disciplines

VISION
Transform Central Iowa's art scene by creating a financially self-sustaining economic and cultural driver, serving as a national model that stands the test of time

STAFF
Siobhan Spain,
Executive Director
Sabrina Carper, *Manager*

VENUE
The Tangerine Food
Company
tangerine@
mainframestudios.org

The Studios design by:
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Sponsored by:
Meredith Corporation
Cover Photo by:
Ryan Damman

For Maggie Gulling, photography rules. So much so it made ditching the 9 to 5 a no brainer.

Ask Maggie what factors propelled her career forward she'll say a high amount of nerves and passion.

She started her photography business in 2005. Ten years later push came to shove and something had to give. Letting photography win out was one of the best decisions she ever made. By then she established herself as a "Lifetime Photographer."

"Ideally, I meet each couple at their wedding, and then continue to photograph all of life's big moments there after," Maggie explains. "My clients are friends. They are amazing families who invite me to photograph their kids, businesses and more. I enjoy watching them grow and succeed!"

Maggie has a habit of doing things that make her nervous. It helps that she's learned to lean on her unwavering drive and passion that guide her through unknown territory.

"I took a leap during a pandemic!" she exclaims.

After wanting to be at Mainframe for years, Maggie decided 2020 was the year. Despite the challenges, she grew her business by staying focused, getting sessions on the schedule, and having a safe place for her clients to come. □

GO ON

Quit Your Day Job

WHO: MAGGIE GULLING
WHAT: PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY
WHERE: STUDIO 319

WHY: "It takes me places I could have never imagined. I meet truly amazing people. I do what I love and get paid for it!"

Believing 2020 changed her for the better, Maggie started sharing photographs of herself in every color of the rainbow and describing what each color represents in helping manifest the life you want to have. Follow her journey on Instagram @maggiephoto.

Photography by Raelyn Ramey



LOWER LEVEL ARTISTS

#LL01
JAMES BEARDEN
Sculpture

#LL02
JJ GAFFERS
Hand Blown and Stained Glass Art

#LL03
JACOB SPAIN
Ceramics

#LL09 & #LL10
SOMETIMES FURNITURE
Woodworking

#LL11
RYAN TOPETE
Multimedia

#LL13
CHRIS VANCE
Painting

#LL14
CITY SOUNDS
Nonprofit



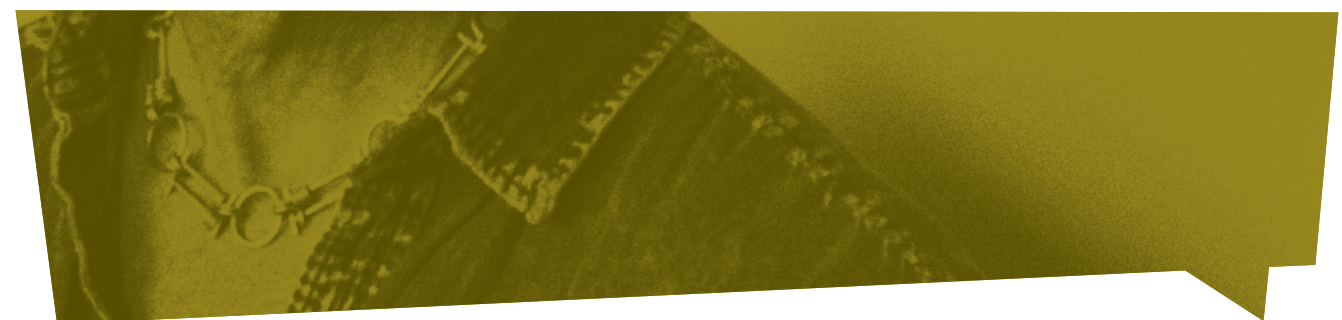
JJ Gaffers studio #LL02

Photography by Paige Peterson

Artist 2

Artist

Sabrina & John chat about their inspiration and what's art for them.



S: My name is **Sabrina Carper**. I'm a mixed media artist using fiber, painting and sculpture to explore themes of family, human connection and conversation.

J: Hi, my name is **John Ravet**. I work in fiber arts which is a very nebulous term. I tend to work in weaving, knitting, and dying in order to bring the beauty out of damage

S: I wanted to start out talking about one of our shared loves, which is Japanese fiber. I've always personally been a really big fan of sashiko mending techniques. For me it's so representative of the idea of mending relationships, and I use it as a symbol for that in my work. What are some techniques that you've always been a fan of?

J: Of course there is the whole wabi sabi aesthetic that I can't escape. I'm a person who will stand in front of a beautifully cracked sidewalk for a very long time because it's such a record of time. I don't see it necessarily as only damage but also as purity. I do incorporate a lot of that aesthetic into my work. My works are not damaged by use, they're just enhanced by use.

S: What are some other things you draw inspiration from?

J: I'm such a magpie when it comes to inspiration. I gather sounds and images and words and pile them, and I figure out what all of this is saying to me and then it's this long process of editing. I strive to keep my work as pure and simple as possible because otherwise it's too much about me. I tend to have very dark inspirations, I don't talk about them a lot with customers because my job is to be an alchemist and to turn those ideas into beautiful objects. Things to wear and things to bring into your home and so I have to abstract from the actual events and simply look at line and color and form.

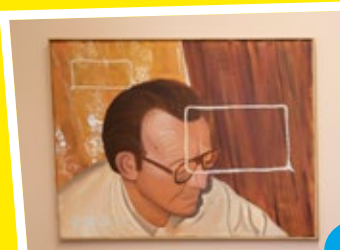


S: Absolutely, I also do a lot of curation of my collection before I start working. I have piles of objects that feel like they have a history that is rooted in people and people's lives. I have boxes of found family photos, and fabrics that I've gotten from estate sales and antique shops. Like you, I do draw a lot from my own past. Some of the text I use explores how people talk to each other physically versus anonymously. I try not to be too judgmental in the digital vs. physical communication argument, but it's something I've been around my whole life. I'm just interested in how communication functions in our lives.

J: The other thing that I want to talk about was storytelling. My background is in the performing arts. Now I'm telling stories that are highly abstracted, but before I was telling stories that were literally playing out before your eyes. I still need the specificity in the abstraction, I think you have to be as intentional with abstraction as you do with realism. Your storytelling is highly pictorial, right?

S: I do like to have a little bit of ambiguity in my stories, but I love an implied narrative that the viewer has to piece together. I think that's where the text and family photos really shine for me. I've always just been such a fan of the written word and the way that you can play with it. I like taking text from anonymous messages on the internet wholly out of context and coupling them with unrelated images to see what I can imply. A piece of text that I'm working with right now is "You're a disgrace to acting giddy", which is so fascinating pulled out of context.

J: Similarly to you I pull ethnic textile patternings out of context. I use different techniques, imagery, and patternings and mix them together and take them out of context. It's this reminder that there's another way to see the world. I do consider those things kind of sacred to the people who live them, and originated them. So I abstract those as well I never take them literally, that's not my place. I just find it so interesting that what we do is so similar and yet it's so very different.



S: I think it really comes down to just the idea of creative processing. At the core it's about researching, and collecting inspiration, then finally culminating that into something tangible. That's art. □

TOOLS OF THE TRADE:

CANVAS

BY THE BLOK DSM

What do marijuana and canvas have in common? Hemp.

In 14th century France canvas was made from tightly woven hemp, and called 'Canevas' from the latin 'Cannabis'. Over time the word evolved, and canvases evolved to be made out of a myriad of materials including linen and cotton.

Canvas has been used in fine art for centuries. The oldest surviving painting on canvas is a French Madonna with angels from around 1410 in the Gemäldegalerie, Berlin. Canvas really became popular in renaissance Italy, as it was an affordable alternative to wood panels. In fact, some historic paintings can even be traced back to the same roll of linen canvas based on age and fiber analysis.¹ Modern painters use mostly cotton canvas, but linen is a popular alternative.

So, what makes a good canvas by modern standards?

For starters it has to be built to last. Warping and sagging are two major issues, and can best be addressed by buying a quality stretcher. Stretchers are designed so the corners of the frame can be pushed apart, stretching the canvas surface to account for sagging.

Next, it's integral to have a frame made of quality wood. Dale Carper, resident woodworker and canvas maker at The Blok DSM, sometimes spends hours searching for the perfect warp-free boards when building custom canvases. When done right, even wall-sized paintings will last a lifetime, or more. □

French Madonna with Angels from around 1410



HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT TOOLS OF YOUR CREATIVE TRADE?
VISIT THE BLOK DSM ART SUPPLY STORE IN #101. THEBLOKDSM.COM

¹ Thank you Sarah Boesen of SJ Fine Art Conservation in Studio #371 for this bonus fact.



FIRST FLOOR ARTISTS

#100 MAINFRAME STUDIOS
Nonprofit Office

#101 THE BLOK DSM
Fine Art Supplies

#102 STUDIO HELE
Painting

#102 DAILY BLISS JEWELRY
Jewelry

#103 & #109 COMMUNITY SUPPORT ADVOCATES
Nonprofit / Momentum Art Studio

#104 & #106 RUNDISM
Nonprofit / Youth Programming

#108 LOVE LIFE COLLECTIVE
Dance Studio

#111 & #112 KFMG 89.9 FM
Nonprofit / Radio Station

#113 CIVIC MUSIC ASSOCIATION
Nonprofit

#115 BLOG BOI ENT.
Music Production

#117 DES MOINES MUSIC COALITION
Nonprofit // Music Management & Promotion

#120 THE RED DOOR PRESS
Letterpress Print Shop and Design Studio

#123 THE BIG ROOM
Event Rental Venue

#124 ALFELINO FELICIANO
Commercial Photography

#126 JIM SPEVAK
Ceramics

#131 THE TANGERINE FOOD CO.
Mainframe Exclusive Caterers



Marion Nehmer studio #419

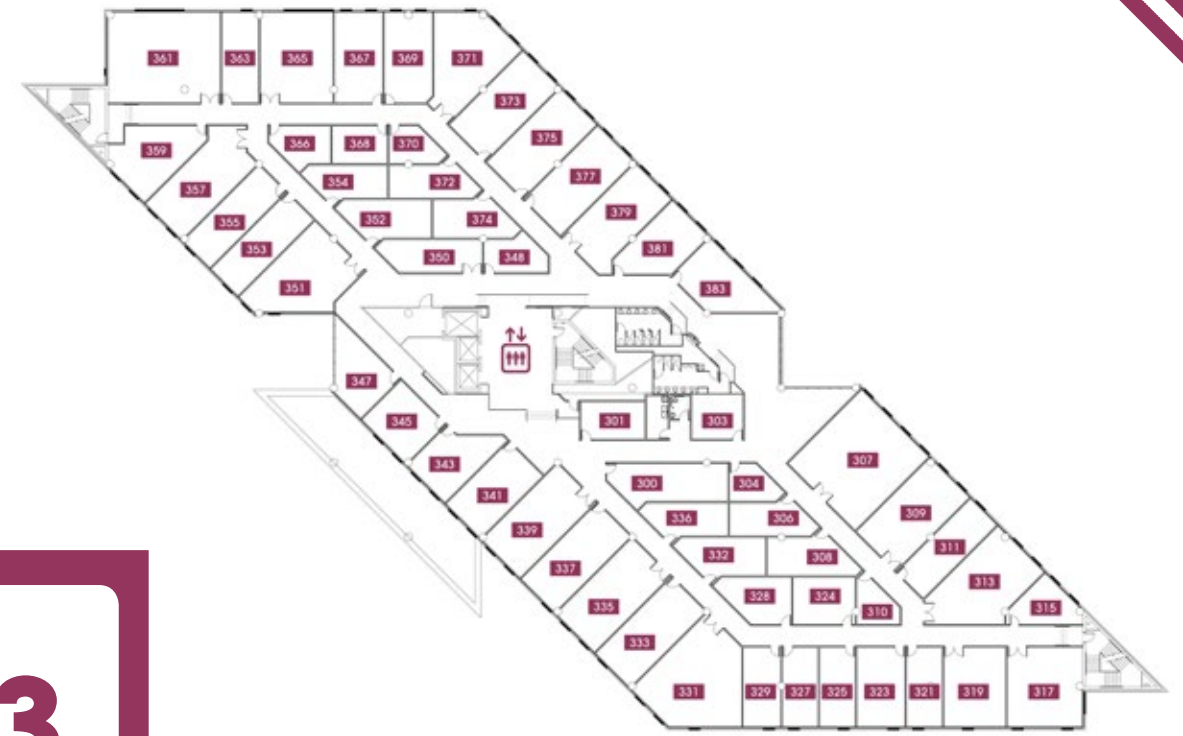
900Views Returns

The Mainframe-inspired podcast 900Views has been on hiatus since mid-summer. (After all, it's pretty hard to find someone to follow Deshara Bohanna as an interview subject). But Host-Producer Pat Boddy says enough time has passed to re-launch this podcast about arts and community building – but with a bit of a twist.

This community-based program never called out a community vision. Imagine – for 18 months, we asked artists to talk about a concept without “painting the picture” of where we want to go. The past year has pointed to the need for this podcast to better understand what we mean by community and to grapple with what it looks, feels, smells, sounds and tastes like. Borrowing from work of the Polk County Disaster Recovery Partnership, 900Views will strive to understand the role of the artists in achieving a “resilient, equitable community.” That’s a great statement but we still need to know what those words mean in the lives of Central Iowa residents and how artists help us progress toward equity and resilience.

At the same time, we still intend to explore what it takes to support the work and lives of the artists that help us create this ambitious vision. **Not every future 900Views guest will come directly from the world of the arts – but they will likely all have some “take” on the contributions artists and Mainframe Studios can and are making.** Stay tuned for future announcements about 900Views’ guest line-up as the podcast returns later this spring and join us wherever you listen to podcasts. □

Photography by Paige Peterson



THIRD FLOOR ARTISTS

- #301 RAYNA ART CO**
Henna and Tattooing
- #303 JON LEMONS**
Photography
- #306 LAURA WILKENS**
Painting
- #304 & #307 VALERIE CARR**
Urban Couture Photography
- #308 PAPER GARDEN WORKSHOP**
Garden Design
- #309 WARD CREATIVE STUDIOS**
Photography
- #310 JODY VALENTINE**
Mixed Media
- #313 DESIGN FETISH BY DESHARA**
Wreaths and Decor
- #315 DYLAN HUEY**
Huey Photography
- #317 DESIGNED BY THE STREETS**
Clothing Design
- #319 MAGGIE GULLING**
Photography
- #321 JULIA FRANKLIN**
Mixed Media
- #323 BRITTANY BROOKE CROW**
Photography
- #324 PATRICK LEER**
Painting
- #325 CLAIRE SEDOVIC**
Illustration
- #327 MADDY FUSCO**
Illustration
- #328 ANDREW CLARRIDGE**
Painting
- #329 VOLK IMAGES LLC**
Photography
- #331 GOLD CREEK**
Game Development
- #332 NICK LAPOLE**
Multimedia
- #333 TITLE FIGHT**
Graphic Design and Printing
- #336 ALYSSA KILLIN**
Mixed Media
- #337 ONE DSM**
Branding
- #339 515 PRINTS**
Printing and Graphic Design
- #341 KIM GOLDBERG**
Mixed Media
- #343 INK AND OAK CALLIGRAPHY**
Calligraphy and Hand-Lettering
- #345 OWEN DESIGN**
Graphic Design
- #347 TIM HUGININ**
Painting
- #348 BRANDI POWELL**
Illustration and Fiber Arts
- #350 ALYSSA TAUBER**
Printmaking
- #351 LOVE LIFE COLLECTIVE**
Dance Studio
- #352 REBELINE**
Leather
- #353 MICHAEL WILSON**
Painting
- #354 SARAH ROSE STUDIO**
Chalk Pastel and Painting
- #355 JUSTIN NOSTROLA**
Painting
- #357 MARKAUS ASHWORTH**
Musician, Entrepreneur
- #359 & #366 FIRAT ERDIM**
Artist
- #361 DON STINSON**
Painting
- #363 BUFFALO BONKER**
Painting
- #365 RYAN DAMMAN PHOTOGRAPHY**
Photography
- #367 JEFF KLISARES**
Painting
- #368 NATASHA PETROSOVA**
Painting
- #369 CAMERON SADEGHPOUR**
Photography & Fine Handmade Knives
- #370 ALOHA BOOM BOXES**
Smart Speakers
- #371 SARA BOESEN**
SJ Fine Art Conservation
- #372 LAUREN PESTA**
Mixed Media
- #373 LEVI ROBB**
Mixed Media
- #374 MICKEY CARLSON**
Painting
- #375 AMENDA TATE**
Interdisciplinary Artist
- #377 LAURA NICHOLE PHOTOGRAPHY**
Photography
- #381 JOSH SORELL**
Painting
- #383 JOHN RAVET**
Fiber Art and Textiles

IOWA CREATIVE INCUBATOR

The pandemic's upheaval forced many of us to stretch, experiment and change. As income sources for artists dried up, events shut down and the topic of racial disparities rose to the forefront, a new initiative took shape in an effort to build a more dynamic and equitable creative economy. Co-created by Mainframe Studios and Beau Kenyon, Iowa Creative Incubator champions projects by five artists that prioritize social engagement and their creative vision. □

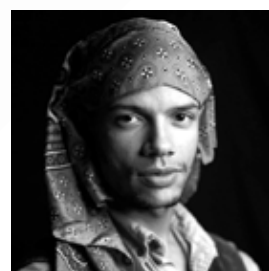
The program fellows and their projects are cultivating genuine change in our communities, and helping fortify Central Iowa's economic resilience and inclusion. Please consider supporting and engaging with their efforts today:



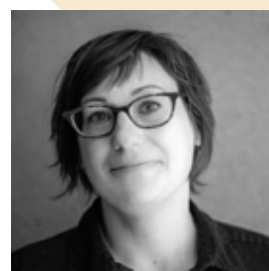
Cameron Gray
Manifesting *Buxton*, a decentralized and participatory initiative that celebrates the expression of Black culture through art, food, food, literature, and community.
buxtonrevisited.com



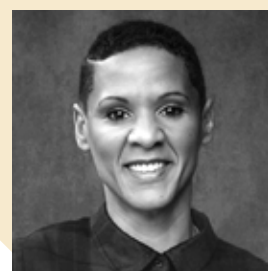
Chrissy Jensen
Developing *Right Right Now Now*, a Risograph print lab where young artists and designers work alongside professional partners to champion community-building and social justice actions.
rightnownow.com



DeAn Michael Kelly
Advancing *Writing History*, a project-based art program for youth that uses Hip Hop, storytelling and reflective meditation to establish a positive self image and improve quality of life for their community.
writinghistory.org



Amenda Tate
Producing *Sapient 2.021*, a collaborative experimental short film featuring Amenda's motion-controlled painting robot that explores societal divides and what it means to be human in a tech-saturated world in the wake of 2020.
amendatate.com



Jill Wells
Presenting *Artists X Advocacy (A.X.A.)*, a public art mentorship program that guides career possibilities for underserved high school students by fostering connections to cultural identity, community partners and vocational resources.
jillwellsart.com



FOURTH FLOOR ARTISTS

- #400 ISA MAISA**
Designer, Clothing & Accessories
- #401 MATTHEW CORONES**
Painting, Mixed Media
- #402 PURPLE RAVEN**
Jewelry
- #403 BRIAN MOSES, DANIEL CHRISTODOSS**
Woodwork
- #404 STUART ARTS**
Painting
- #405 HEARTLAND STUDIO**
Painting
- #406 SAMMIE COCKERHAM**
Painting
- #407 JESS QUINN**
Botanic Oil Painting
- #408 JAY GRIFFITH**
Painting
- #409 WES & JOAN YEOMAN**
Multimedia Art and Design
- #411 MARISSA HERNANDEZ**
Drake University's Dept of Art & Design Alumni Studio
- #413 SUE PENN DESIGNS**
Painting, Fabric Design
- #417 WAVEFORM MUSIC**
Recording Studio
- #419 EMILY MACFARLAND**
Pottery
- #419 MARION NEHMER**
Pottery
- #421 CAPITAL PHOTOGRAPHY**
Photography
- #423 BITTY BUTTONS**
Children's Clothing
- #425 LAINEY BECK**
Multimedia
- #427 SARAH NOLL WILSON**
Leadership Lab
- #428 CHRISTINE LOGLI LEDO**
Painting, Portraits
- #430 SHEENA THOMAS**
Jewelry
- #433 & 435 LINDA LEWIS**
Clay narrative sculptures
- #435 DIANE HAYES**
Clay sculptor
- #435 JUDY GOODWIN**
Clay sculptor
- #437 JEN LAWLER DESIGNS**
Jewelry
- #440 KZA LLC**
Makeup as Art
- #442 GOOD FRIEND DESIGNS**
Jewelry
- #443 KATIE GEARTY**
Mixed Media, Jewelry
- #444 SAMANTHA GREEN**
Upholstery
- #446 JEFF RIDER ART**
Painting
- #445 & 447 GRETCHEN BOHLING DESIGNS**
Clothing Design
- #448 FUECHE VANG**
Painting, Illustrating
- #449 JAMI MILNE**
Photography
- #451 MOLLY SPAIN**
Mixed Media, Design
- #453 BRIAN DUFFY**
Cartoons, Illustration
- #455 ALEX BROWN ESTATE RESIDENCY**
Painting
- #457 MICHELLE LOVELL**
Photography
- #458 SABRINA CARPER**
Mixed Media
- #459 MARGO Z NAHAS**
Jewelry, Multimedia
- #460 VENNESSA SIRES**
Painting
- #461 ADAM VAN WYK**
Storyboard Artist
- #461 TYLER WALPOLE**
Illustration
- #462 BEN SCHUH**
Painting, Murals
- #464 PAIGE PETERSON PHOTOGRAPHY**
Reveal Room
- #465 PAIGE PETERSON PHOTOGRAPHY**
Photography
- #465 KELLY BROWN**
KPC Pagent Coaching
- #467 JAY VIGON CREATIVE**
Fine Art, Design
- #469 HOLLY HARTY**
Painting
- #471 NUMINOUS GAMES**
Game Development
- #471 SUBSTRATE INTERACTIVE, INC**
Game Development

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Events Venue

BOOK YOUR NEXT EVENT AT MAINFRAME STUDIOS - OFFERING A CONTEMPORARY, WINDOWLINED SPACE WITH 12 FT HIGH CEILINGS AND AN EXPANSIVE, LIGHT-FILLED INDUSTRIAL ENVIRONMENT. ADDITIONAL ATRIUM AND MEETING ROOMS ALSO AVAILABLE. BONUS: IN-HOUSE OPTIONS FROM OUR ARTISTS INCLUDE PERSONALIZED INVITATIONS, GIFTS, EVENT DÉCOR, WORKSHOPS AND MORE.

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SIZE // 4700SF FLEXIBLE BANQUET ROOM

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TANGERINE@MAINFRAMESTUDIOS.ORG // 515.720.7510



MAINFRAME STATS

ESTABLISHED IN
2012

Total number
of studios
131

Over
30
creative disciplines
represented

Already the **largest nonprofit creative workspace in the nation**

More to go! Phase 3 requires \$1.4M in funding to renovate 2nd floor and add our final 49 studios

When complete, Mainframe Studios will be financially self-sustaining



YOU'RE INVITED!
First Friday
— OPEN HOUSE —
HAPPENING EVERY MONTH

900 Keosauqua Way Des Moines, Iowa 50309
mainframestudios.org // @mainframearts

 MAINFRAME
STUDIOS